

WORK SESSION MINUTES NOVEMBER 26, 2012 – 6:00 P.M.

6:00 P.M. – **CALL TO ORDER** - Present were Councilmembers; Adams, Durham, Henry and Nordstrom, also present were Mayor Spratt, Clerk Avery and Attorney Vinson. Mayor Spratt said that the only agenda item were issues that Councilmember Cephias wanted to discuss. Councilmember Nordstrom stated that we should not wait (for Councilman Cephias) the meeting should start on time. Councilman Nordstrom stated that being late is one of the issues and he is mad because he gave up a dinner appointment for tonight's meeting.

Councilman Adams suggested adopting a way to break a tie vote. He questioned if the Councilman at Large could go into other members districts and speak to residents, he would not want to step on other Councilmembers toes. Councilman Durham said do not worry about stepping on toes, the Councilman at Large represents all the Town residents but it would be courteous to let the other Councilman know beforehand. The Mayor stated that Councilmembers should not put other Councilmembers down when talking to other people.

Councilman Adams asked if there could be individual district meetings, the Mayor questioned if that would work because attendance is very light at Town Meetings the way it is. Councilman Durham thought there could be sub-meetings before the regular Town Meetings. Councilman Nordstrom stated that residents should know that they can ask what district they live in and who their respective Councilman is. Councilman Adams stated that information could be included with the survey that Councilman Cephias recommended. Councilman Nordstrom stated that residents have ideas to help the Town; they need to be asked for their ideas.

Councilman Durham said his wife would like to see the Town have a tree lighting ceremony for Christmas. Mayor Spratt said that the Lions Club will be putting out luminaries the evening of Saturday, December the 8th. There will also be Christmas Carols, Santa Claus and carriage rides beginning at 6:00 P.M. at the Train Station. Mom and Pops restaurant will also be open. The Mayor stated that this year's Grand Marshall will be Sheriff Jimmy Phillips and Chief Les Hutton will be the Town Marshall.

Councilman Nordstrom stated that having a work session for the second meeting of the month is a good idea; it is a time for the Council to work together. He further stated that grants are available all year.

The Mayor asked how many Councilmembers respond to Councilman Cephias' emails. Clerk Avery said that the Councilmen should respond to those emails, they need to interact.

Councilman Durham stated that in his opinion a Councilmember position should not be a paid position, being a Councilman is a civic duty. He thought 10,000 dollars annually is an absurd amount for what is done. He figured that salary amounts to about 900 dollars an hour for the meetings that are attended.

In regards to comments in Councilman Cephas' email;

Councilman Durham said that he had a key to the meeting room door that works.

Councilman Nordstrom stated that the position of Police Liaison is up to the Mayor, not the Council; it is not in the Charter. The Mayor stated the Chief Hutton does not want or need a Police Liaison. The Chief is always open to the Council and Town residents.

Clerk Avery explained that noting the time of Councilmembers arrival after the meeting has started is not meant to be degrading to the Councilmember. It was done in past minutes for Councilman Adams and Attorney Vinson as well.

Councilman Henry asked why there was a question regarding Amick and B&G's discharges. Mayor Spratt stated that if anyone had questions regarding Amick they should direct them to Clerk Avery.

6:40 P.M. - Councilman Adams gave a prayer prior to the meeting being adjourned and stated that he is going away for two months in the latter part of January.

Respectively submitted,

John Avery
Clerk/Treasurer